

# 125 and counting . . .

**I am absolutely delighted to announce that the club will be celebrating its 125th anniversary in a few months time. The club was originally founded on Christmas Eve in 1885 and over the next few months there will be a number of opportunities to celebrate its anniversary. To have survived all this time is a remarkable feat and perhaps testament to its ability to evolve with changes in society.**

Robert, with some help from Board members, has again put together a very interesting program of events for the coming season, and I hope you will sample a few of them. Several events inevitably focus on the history of the club and the local environs. With extremely knowledgeable speakers, I think these will be fascinating opportunities to find out

more about its history, and to celebrate the occasion. I am looking forward to participating fully, to better understand our roots. See Stan's article in the Newsletter for more details.

You will have noticed, I hope, the extensive renovations and updates that have taken place around the club this year, with more imminent during August! With the revamp of the web-site, to modernize our virtual image, the club continues to evolve and maybe will do so for another 125 years! The coming period is both an exciting one for the club, and a chance to show off our excellent facilities to family and friends. I do hope you will enjoy them to the full.

**Bruce Murrill**  
Chairman



2009/10 Club Chairman, Bruce Murrill

## Turning back time



Linda welcomes back our most punctual member along with its saviour, Clock Specialist David Bearcroft

**Many club members had voiced concerns over the wellbeing and welfare of our longest serving member.**

The club's 150 year old French clock which has graced the club's front of house for as long as anyone can remember, recently decided to pop it's clockwork clogs which necessitated considerable renovation and repair.

The fully restored clock is now back in situ where it will once again witness the daily to-ing and fro-ing of club members and will be lovingly cared for by Linda, who will ensure this rare timepiece continues to serve the club in a timely fashion.

## 125 years - are we really that old ?

. . . . yes we are!

**On Christmas Eve 1885 in the same premises where the club is situated today the Ipswich and Suffolk Club was formed.**

To celebrate this achievement, over the next six months we will be holding a number of functions, details of which can be found in the Social Diary.

Please come and enjoy the celebrations but, be quick to book your places as we are sure the events will sell out very quickly.

*Here is a brief resume of some of the events planned so far:*

**September 9th** - 125 Anniversary Lunch - Past chairman of the club Harold Page talks about the last 125 years

**October 29th** - 1885 Club Anniversary Night - Speaker Dr John Blatchly

**November 25th** - 125 Charity Speakers Lunch - Speaker Dr John Blatchly on the importance of Archdeacons House before it became the club.

**December 11th** - 125 Anniversary Annual Members Dinner (club members only)

Please remember to book early to avoid disappointment  
**Stan Gaskin**

## Fabric report

**Externally the rear of Archdeacon's House facing the car park has now been repainted. The front of the building will be redecorated in 2011. Some touching up is also being undertaken to the front, which will account for the patchwork quilt effect of the undercoat.**

The new raised flower border against the front wall to the left of the wicket gate is complete and the new plants are establishing themselves well. It is expected that a second raised border, between the wicket gate and the main gates, will be added in 2011.

Internally the new two compartment ladies loo has been completed on the ground floor, so please pop in for a quick visit!

A new carpet has recently been laid to the Adam Room and during August the dining room will be closed for a complete refurbishment which will include new carpet, curtains and decorations. The fans are being removed and air conditioning installed.

We strive to improve.

**Trudi Nicholls and Richard Hawkins**  
*House Mistress and House Master*

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## From the Wine Committee (hic!)

**Two recent wine tasting events were the 'Taste of Burgundy' in May and the 'Champagne and Strawberries' evening in July. Both were very well attended.**

The former was particularly well received, both for the wine and an absolutely superb dinner prepared by Denis. "One of the best ever" was quoted by several in attendance, and that was just the food! We also had the rare opportunity of having a 'vertical' tasting. No, this does not mean tasting wine standing up! It is tasting the same makers wine from different years, in this case 1997 and 1999, to compare their characteristics. Very different they were too.

Looking ahead in the coming season we have our popular 'Vintage Wine evening' on October 15th and that great evening of fun - the 'Call my Bluff' wine tasting, on November 20th.

All this will be topped out with the '125 Anniversary Members Dinner' on December 11th where we shall of course be raiding our cellar for more oenological delights. Book early and stay in practice!

**Bruce Murrill**



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## A note from the President

**As a Club, since 1885, we have been extremely fortunate to have had members of the Board of Directors who have used their various talents to ensure that the long term future is secure. In the past one of their efforts to obtain the freehold of our premises has been so rewarding.**

Today is no exception and our current Board still work to enhance the facilities and future of the Club; much of this is unseen and is done voluntarily. Never having been a member of the Board I am able to take an unbiased but appreciative view of their efforts. Currently they are, of course, greatly assisted by our General Manager, Robert.

I mention this because in September, the Speaker at one of our lunches will be Harold Page, a long standing member and past director and chairman of the Club. Harold is a mine of information on, and will be speaking about, the history of the Club. For those interested early booking, I think, will be essential.

Hopefully the planned air-conditioning in the Dining Room will have been installed!

**Gerry Barnes – Club President**

## General Manager's review of the past six months



**We have had a fantastic six months since our last newsletter with over 29 new members, proof indeed that we are fast becoming the number one venue for discerning residents of Suffolk.**

Thanks to excellent support from you the members, our ongoing program of refurbishment continues to bring a steady stream of improvements to the fabric of the club, both inside and out.

Our thanks must go to both Trudi Nichols and Richard Hawkins who between them put in a great deal of time and effort to turn our plans into reality.

Please rest assured that we are committed to continuing to invest in what is without doubt one of the finest venues of its kind in the county.

On a more sombre note, it is my sad duty to report that in the past six months we have lost Bob Dodsworth, Alan Maylin, Chris Newman, Tony Greengrass, Terry McBryde and Bob Bacon. All will surely be missed by staff and members alike.

Do have a look at our new 125 Special Edition Social Calendar and please **BOOK EARLY**. I hope you will be tempted to join in the events that we have already planned, and please keep your eye on the notice board and your email inbox for additional events as they pop up. Events do tend to fill up very fast and it has even been known for the club to take bookings for 50 members in just 24 hours!

The club may well be well into its second century, but we do strive to keep up to date with modern technology, as evidenced by our brand new web site at [www.ipswichandsuffolkclub.co.uk](http://www.ipswichandsuffolkclub.co.uk) that has been developed to keep you up to date and to showcase our club to the world. Do please go online and check it out when you get the opportunity.

And finally, I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank you for your help and support and please be assured that I will do my very best to deliver all that is expected for the new subscription year.

**Robert Coppin - Club General Manager**

## Bridge update

The Bridge Club continues to meet every Tuesday morning at 9.30am for a 9.45am start and over the last year runs an average of five and a half tables, (the limit being seven due to the size of room.)

The bridge is competitive but very friendly, with a leisurely coffee break at 11.00am until 11.15am provided I can persuade the ladies to stop talking and return to the tables!

The Bridge Club was started five years ago in response to requests from some members who wanted to learn or improve their bridge. It is very rewarding now, to see several of our bridge members going away on bridge holidays and playing at other clubs on a regular basis.

The club has generously provided a new trophy for the players to compete for. The trophy will be awarded to player/s who achieves the highest average percentage score over the year (Jan-Dec) from a minimum of twenty playing sessions.

**Steve Croucher**



*Steve Croucher pictured with the club's new bridge trophy*

## Snooker & Billiards News

The winter 2009/10 Competitions were completed with a successful Finals Evening on 22nd April and the results were as follows:

Competition	Winner(s)	Runner(s) – up
Snooker Open	D.G. Tuckwell	J.B. Cook
Snooker Handicap	R.M. Alexander	M. Page
Norman Baynes Billiards	S.L. Johnston	R.M. Alexander
Taylor Centenary Tankards	G. McLellan & P. Shepherd	S.E. Gaskin & B.F. Tenwick
Claud West	P. Shepherd	V.D. Alexander

Congratulations to all and thanks to the referees.

During the "close season", both tables have been serviced and recovered. The Club's snooker facilities continue to be the envy of many of our visiting teams. We have had a few more members coming on a Tuesday evening but would welcome a few more, particularly those who feel that they need a little more practice.

I look forward to another record entry for this winter's competitions - the entry forms will be on the notice board from early August. When entering, do please ensure that you will be available for the appropriate Finals Night !!

Many thanks to the other nine members of the Snooker Committee.

**David Green**

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*George McLellan (left) and Peter Shepherd, winners of the Taylor Centenary Tankards*

## Club Golf

The Ipswich and Suffolk Club golfing season is now well under way with both our inter-club competitions having been played, the club knockout in progress and the annual club golf day yet to be held.

The Ipswich and Suffolk golfers have had a most successful year, beginning with a halved match against the Colchester Garrison club in May, which enabled us to retain the Priarch Trophy.

To be fair, the Garrison Club's team was lacking its long-serving and ever-popular Captain Freddy Selleck due to illness, so who knows what may have resulted had he been there to lead his team. We all of course wish Freddy a speedy recovery and a return to the tee for the 2011 fixture.

The match in May against the Bury Farmers Club at the delightful Flempton Golf Club was a great success for the Ipswich boys and we were delighted to bring home the Turnbull Trophy once again.

At the time of going to press, the annual matchplay knockout competition for the Northgate Trophy will be down to the last few competitors and we all look forward to finding out which one of the remaining gifted golfers will lift the trophy this year.

The highlight of the year is of course yet to come so I would like to take this opportunity to remind all you golfers out there that the annual golf day will be held as usual at Purdis, starting at 1.30 on Wednesday 15th September.

After the match there will be an excellent dinner followed by prize-giving at the Ipswich and Suffolk Club, and this year I would very much like to see a bumper turnout of golfers competing for the trophy and enjoying what is always one of the club's most enjoyable events.

So please put the date in your diary, add your name to the list on the sporting notice-board and do remind your fellow golfing members to do the same.

I very much look forward to seeing you all there on the day.

Yours in golf - **Allan Gosling**

## New members

The Ipswich & Suffolk Club warmly welcome the following new members:-

John & Rosalie Skinner • Paddy & Rosalind Wood • Clare Thomas • Colin & Brenda Jarrett • Andrew & Hayley Macmillan • Max Weatherby • Alex Boyle • Graeme & Jill Proctor • Susan Steel • Jo Stock • Craig Sennett • John & Anne Riches • Vivian Hills • John Hutchinson • Peter & Barbara Finbow • Richard & Karen Cottee • Peter & Rosemary Bailey • Gary & Sacha Seddon-Price • David King

# Recent Club Events

Since our last newsletter, there have been a large number of highly successful events held at the club, some of which have been captured on camera. These include Burns Night, our popular Champagne and Strawberries Wine Tasting Evening and of course the Summer Soirée.

The programme of events for the coming year can be found in your Club Social Calendar and we respectfully recommend early booking for all events to avoid disappointment.



## Burns' Night

The Club's annual Burns' Night festivities celebrated the life of Scotland's favourite son.



## Barge Trip

All present and correct - the Club's annual barge trip down the River Orwell once again proved to be a very popular event with our members.



## ◀ Taste of England

This capacity event was well received and a good time was had by all.

## Club Visitors ▶

The Ipswich & Suffolk Club played host to the Rolls Royce Owners' Club which added a certain class to our car park on a wet May afternoon.



## Joint Membership

This is an excellent time to upgrade your membership to include your spouse or partner.

The cost is £40.00 + VAT - Interested? Contact General Manager Robert Coppin.

## Your Club Contacts:

General Manager Robert Coppin • Club Chef Denis Groualle

Restaurant Supervisor Linda Sparkes • Bar Manager Sheila Studd

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